

INSIDER'S NEWSLETTER

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CAMELOT'S CHILD: Latin American diplomats in Washington have given the name "Son of Plan Camelot" to a "purely private academic survey" of political, economic and social factors in Latin America being conducted by Michigan State University sociologist Kenneth Bode. The original Plan Camelot, a Pentagon probe of the causes of social revolution in Latin America, was killed last month after loud protests from the Chilean government. The White House felt it was questionable foreign policy to have the Army go around asking foreign nationals whether they wanted to overthrow their government. The "Son of Plan Camelot" questionnaire asks Latin American diplomats to name and explain their political philosophies, name their closest friends in other embassies, list the groups in their home countries that work for the collective good, list their reading matter and so on. Reaction from the diplomats has ranged from indifference to outrage. Said one: "Thirty minutes after they receive my answers, they will be on file in Langley (the CIA headquarters)." Gripe another: "What does my father's salary have to do with an academic investigation... of Latin America?"
